

# DESKTOP REVIEW OF OER POLICIES, PROJECTS, AND RESEARCH IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

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# Desktop Review of OER Policies, Projects, and Research in the Global South

**Presented by Patricia Arinto**  
University of the Philippines – Open University  
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# Research on Open Educational Resources for Development in the Global South

## GENERAL OBJECTIVE:

IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL POLICY, PRACTICE and RESEARCH in developing countries by better understanding the use and impact of OER

August 2013 - February 2017

### PROJECT CLUSTERS

- OER Desktop Review
- OER Survey
- Academics' adoption of OER
- Teacher educators' adoption of OER
- OER adoption in one country
- OER impact studies
- Baseline educational expenditure



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# Desktop review objectives

- To provide a general overview of OER projects, policies, and research, and infrastructural, legal, socio-cultural and/or economic factors that might influence OER adoption in South America, Sub-Saharan Africa, and South and South East Asia --
  - As background information for ROER4D researchers in the various regions and for the final meta-analysis
  - As a contribution to the knowledge base of OER activities already being developed by associated OER projects in the Global South and North



# Geographic coverage

- 3 regional overviews:
  - South America: 11 countries
  - Sub-Saharan Africa; 24 English-speaking countries
  - South and Southeast Asia: 13 countries
- 9 country overviews
  - Chile, Colombia & Peru (South America)
  - Ghana, Kenya & South Africa (Sub-Saharan Africa)
  - India, Indonesia & Malaysia (South & Southeast Asia)
- Researchers: M. Eguren (South America); SAIDE (Sub-Saharan Africa); G. Dhanarajan (South & Southeast Asia)



## South America

# ICT infrastructure

- Internet penetration ranking  
Chile at 47th vs. Paraguay at 107th
- Broadband download speeds  
Chile at 59th (14.54 Mbps) vs. Venezuela at 182nd (2.0 Mbps)
- Affordability of broadband access  
Uruguay (35th) and Peru (38th) vs. Bolivia (103rd) and Ecuador (106th)



# Policy landscape

- IP regulations: Common Norm for Andean Community, WIPO Copyright Treaty, WIPO Performance and Phonograms Treaty, WTO Agreement on TRIPS
- Only 7 of 12 states with legal regulations for sharing teaching and learning materials openly
- UNESCO/COL OER survey (Hoosen, 2012): 46% of LAC countries with a strategy or policy on OER; 41% can identify specific OER initiatives by institutions and engaged individuals; 23% by government initiatives and 9% by non-government funding

## South America

# OER projects/initiatives

- Proyecto LATIn – Iniciativa Latinoamericana de Libros de Texto Abiertos (LATIn Project – Latin American Initiative for Open Textbooks) [www.latinproject.org](http://www.latinproject.org)
- Red Latinoamericana de Portales Educativos – RELPE (Latin American Network of Educational Portals) – encourages shared use of content developed and creation of common repositories among 16 countries





# South America

## OER research

- Reviews of OER projects (e.g. Dos Santos 2011, Rossini 2012); lack of empirical research
- Some research available only in Spanish or Portuguese (e.g. Astudillo, Willging & Garcia 2011; Rozo & Prada 2012)



# South America Prospects

- Growing interest in open education: 6 countries in Open Education Consortium (Brazil with 7 institutional members, Colombia 5, Peru 3, Ecuador 2, Chile & Venezuela 1 each)
- Indicators of engagement in “open” practices: Brazil, Argentina, Ecuador and Paraguay all have “ambassadors” in the Open Knowledge network



## Sub-Saharan Africa

# ICT infrastructure

- Internet penetration ranking  
South Africa at 80th (48.9%), Kenya at 100th (39%), and Ghana at 145th (12.3%)
- Broadband download speeds  
Kenya at 98th (8.16Mbps), Ghana at 103rd (7.66Mbps), and South Africa at 128th (5.81Mbps)
- Affordability of broadband access  
Kenya at 116th (15.68%), Ghana at 102nd (9.87%), and South Africa at 92nd (6.14%)



# Sub-Saharan Africa

## Policy landscape

- Of the three countries, only South Africa and Kenya are part of the formal Creative Commons Affiliate Network
- UNESCO/COL OER survey (Hoosen, 2012): 25% of African countries with a strategy or policy on OER; 50% of African countries can identify specific OER initiatives by institutions and engaged individuals; 17% by government initiatives and 33% by non-government funding



# Sub-Saharan Africa OER projects

- Teacher Education in Sub-Saharan Africa (TESSA) project
- AVU project on ICT-integrated teacher education curriculum in Math, Physics, Chemistry, and Biology resulting in more than 200 modules



# Sub-Saharan Africa

## OER research

- From overviews of OER to reflections on practice (e.g. Glennie, Harley, Butcher & van Wyk 2012)
- Empirically based research (e.g. Cartmill 2013; Hodgkinson-Williams & Paskevicius 2012; Wolfenden, Buckler & Keraro 2012)



# Sub-Saharan Africa Prospects

- Growing cultural interest in open education among institutions: South Africa with 3 institutional members and Kenya with 2 institutional members in the Open Education Consortium
- South Africa and Kenya have “ambassadors” in the Open Knowledge network



# South and Southeast Asia

## ICT infrastructure

- Internet penetration ranking

Malaysia at 45th (67%), Indonesia at 135th (15.8%), and India at 139th (15.1%)

- Broadband download speeds

Malaysia at 126th (5.90Mbps), India at 103rd (5.51Mbps), and Indonesia 128th (4.77Mbps)

- Affordability of broadband access

India at 80th (4.35%), Malaysia at 69th (2.49%), and Indonesia 68th (2.29%)





# South and Southeast Asia

## Policy landscape

- All three countries are part of the formal Creative Commons Affiliate Network
- UNESCO/COL OER survey (Hoosen, 2012): 57% of Asian and Pacific countries report the presence of a strategy or policy on OER; 52% can identify specific OER initiatives by institutions and engaged individuals; 39% by government initiatives and 26% by non-government funding



# South and Southeast Asia

## OER projects

- India's National Repository of Open Educational Resources
- China Open Resources for Education (CORE) – sharing and exchange educational materials among Chinese universities and international universities
- Japan Open Courseware Consortium (JOCW)
- Vietnam Foundation collaboration with Rice University and through Connexions to translate American texts into Vietnamese for free use locally



# South and Southeast Asia

## OER research

- OER research moving from general overviews of OER to reflections on practice (e.g. National Institute of Open Schooling 2013)
- More empirically based research (Dhanarajan & Porter 2013)



# South and Southeast Asia Prospects

- Growing cultural interest in open education by institutions in South and Southeast Asia: India with 7 members, Indonesia with 5 members, and Malaysia with 2 institutional members in the Open Education Consortium
- Indonesia and India have “ambassadors” in the Open Knowledge network
- OERAsia (<http://www.oerasia.org/>)



# ROER4D Network (... researchers)

## Sub-Project 1 (7)

**Mariana Eguren**, Peru

Maryla Bialobrzeska, **Jenny Louw**,  
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# Links



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